REMARKS

Claims 42-58 remain in this application. Claims 1-42 have been cancelled. No claims have been amended. New claims 42-58 have been added.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and prior art.

Applicant has cancelled all existing claims and added new claims 42-58. Independent claim 42 is a system claim. Claim 50 is an independent method claim. Claim 56 is an independent claim directed to a computer-readable medium.

Applicant contends that the claims as now presented are patentable over the prior art.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 18 and 34 under a number of different references. For example, he rejects a number of claims as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0029524 to Smith et al. (hereinafter "Smith"). Claims 1, 18 and 34 are rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0034771 to Hutsch et al. (hereinafter "Hutsch"). Other claims are rejected as obvious over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0181580 to Baranshamaje in view of a publication by Temple, "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Microsoft Outlook 2000," pg 16. Other claims were rejected as obvious over Baranshamaje and Temple and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0016821 to DeBusk et al. (hereinafter "DeBusk") or Baranshamaje and Temple and further in review of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0143949 to Rajarajan et al. (hereinafter "Rajarajan") or Baranshamaje, Temple and Rajarajan and further in view U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/00049612 Slothouber et al. (hereinafter "Slothouber").

This application is directed to a system that provides configuration data for a web service. It includes a source of configuration data. A configuration module retrieves the configuration data at the request of a web service and is operative for generating data objects related to the configuration data and submitting each data object as a distributed object module to the web service.

In different aspects, the configuration data can be formed as configuration data used for accessing an electronic mailbox. The web service can be formed as an Internet Service Provider (ISP) that uses the configuration data for accessing electronic mail from another internet service provider. The mailbox can be formed as a gateway window into an electronic mailbox and uses configuration data on-the-fly for accessing an electronic mailbox.

In another aspect, the web service interface module formats data objects as distributed object modules for submission to a web service. The configuration data can be formed as a user system that includes a web browser or email client. A method is also set forth. Also a claim directed to the computer-readable medium is set forth.

As shown in FIG. 1, the user system could be a local computer or mobile wireless communications device that accesses source mailboxes on a corporate intranet or associated with an internet. The user system includes a plurality of electronic mail (email) clients that access a respective plurality of source mailboxes. This user system includes a source of mailbox configuration data that corresponds to the configuration parameters required to configure access to the plurality of source mailboxes.

The configuration parameters are part of configuration data that includes the parameters such as the mailbox server name, access port, password, user name, incoming mail server, outgoing mail (SMTP) server, mail server type, such as IMAP, and other configuration parameters required to configure user access to one or more of the source mailboxes. The configuration data changes for the different mailboxes.

It should be understood that there are times when the user may desire a web service or a target mailbox operating through a web service to access the source mailbox automatically without user intervention and having the user input numerous parameters. This is important when a user may maintain several separate mailboxes, such as corporate email and personal email, and the user desires to access different email boxes from a web service or a separate target mailbox, without having the user determine configuration parameters for each of the mailboxes and configure manually a web service associated with the web server and target mailbox.

The configuration module, shown as the configuration engine 50 in FIG. 2, is operative with the user system and web service for automatically retrieving configuration parameters from the source of mailbox configuration data and transmitting these configuration parameters to the web service or target mailbox for allowing the web service or target mailbox to be configured to access the plurality of source mailboxes without user intervention. This configuration module can include the import module having a plurality of mailbox import agents that correspond to the respective email clients at the user agent for retrieving mailbox configuration data from the source of

mailbox configuration data at the user system and generating respective configuration data objects for each of the respective mailboxes based on the configuration parameters. A web service interface module is operative for interfacing with the web service and target mailboxes through the web service.

The configuration module can be operative locally or remote from the user system. This web service could, of course, be an internet service provider (ISP) that uses configuration data for accessing electronic mail from another internet service provider and provide a gateway window into an electronic mailbox such that configuration data can be used on-the-fly. This web service interface module is also operative for formatting data objects form the import module as distributed object modules for submission to the web service.

Thus, it is evident that the system and method allows a user that might be working at a remote location or another personal computer or handheld to access mailboxes without entering difficult configuration parameters. This can occur automatically. It also allows managing of a plurality of different mailboxes at the user system. This could be advantageous when the user has both a mobile wireless communications device and a number of different local computers, including a corporate or personal computer.

These problems are not addressed by Smith, which offers no solution as described.

The claimed invention now presented in this Amendment is directed to solving a different technical problem using a different technical solution as compared to the technical problem solved by Smith. Smith is directed to

solving the technical problem when people use multiple electronic mail accounts that allow easier access to multiple mail accounts from a wireless device by having an email agent maintain a logged-in condition with at least two of a plurality of email accounts. A selection module accepts a selection of one of the plurality of logged-in email accounts for transferring file information and a wireless subscriber may move back and forth between access to each of the plurality of email accounts without requiring repeated log-in/log-out of any of the email accounts by the wireless subscriber. These email applications are defined and identified by a parameter stored in corresponding email accounts information file maintained separately for each subscriber. Usually one default information file as a default email account is used for a particular subscriber.

The claimed invention is directed to solving a different problem of managing multiple mailboxes in which separate mailboxes have a unique set of configuration parameters including the use of different mailbox protocols, giving rise to differing sets of configuration parameters for each of the mailboxes. The technical problem approached by the claimed invention is directed to a user that determines these configuration parameters for each of the mailboxes and configures manually a web service associated with the web server to access each of the mailboxes.

The claimed invention is directed to providing configuration data for a requesting web service and acting as a pass-through service. The web service could be a new internet service provider that uses the configuration data for accessing electronic mail from another internet service

provider. The mailbox could be a gateway window into another electronic mailbox and use the configuration data on-the-fly. The module automatically configures access to electronic mail from the plurality of different electronic mailboxes.

The technical solution of the claimed invention is provided by the system that includes the user system, web service and target mailboxes that can be configured such that the configuration module automatically retrieves configuration parameters from the source of mailbox configuration data and transmits these configuration parameters to a web service or target mailbox (not the source mailbox) for allowing the web service or target mailbox to be configured to access the plurality of source mailboxes without user intervention. The import module has mailbox import agents that correspond to respective email clients at the user agent and retrieve mailbox configuration data from the source mailbox configuration data at the user system and generates respective configuration data objects for each respective mailbox based on the configuration parameters. The web service interface module interfaces with the web service and target mailboxes through the web service.

Clearly, Smith and the claimed invention presented in this Amendment are directed to solving different technical problems and use a different technical solution.

The other references are further removed.

Hutsch is directed to a network portal system that includes a web-top manager and universal content broker system in which a network portal system allows the universal and integral use of different services by arbitrary client systems. A network portal system links a communications

network and content provider with a web-top manager that receives a content request from the client. Each content provider will access content having a different raw data format. Hutsch does not address the technical problem or provide a technical solution as provided by the claimed invention presented in this Amendment.

Baranshamaje is directed to portable email messaging that provides a user with a generalized web mail solution that works with any SMTP-POP/IMAP email server while keeping an email account private. A portable email account is activated that is not connected to the internet to allow a user to compose and/or read email messages and synchronize selected message folders and address book with a portable email account between two independent directory locations. This can be operated as a web mail. Baranshamaje solves the technical problem of synchronizing different email folders and other associated problems. Thus, in combination with Smith or Hutsch, one skilled in the art would be motivated to synchronizing email message folders with those systems. When Baranshamaje is taken in combination with Temple, it would suggest a synchronization of email accounts with imported email settings on a computer, which is not the claimed invention and does not address the problems solved by the claimed invention presented in this Amendment.

DeBusk is directed to modular tracking and profiling with information management software, while Rajarajan is directed to managing different resources. Slothouber is directed to retrieving data over a network and formatting and displaying it on an associated display with data broadcast

over a broadband network using a set-top-box or similar device.

These three references are further removed and disclose components that would be only bits and pieces of the overall system. Taken alone or in combination, they do not suggest the claimed invention presented in this Amendment.

Applicant contends that the present case is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due. If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing this case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

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